

## Technical Assistance Exchange Newsletter April 29, 2009

A Weekly Update for Aging & Disability Resource  
Center and Nursing Home Diversion Programs and  
their Partners

Contact Allison Yudt at The Lewin Group with  
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### The Semi-Annual Reporting Tool (SART) closes this week!

The Semi-Annual Report  
for ADRC and Real  
Choice Grantees with an  
ADRC Option is due April  
30, 2009.

To access the SART, you  
must be logged in to the  
TAE website at a level of  
"full access."

The link to the SART is  
found in the "My State  
Information" side menu.  
If you do not see this  
menu, your account  
does not have full  
access.

Contact [adrc-  
tae@lewin.com](mailto:adrc-tae@lewin.com) with

## Medicare Announces Sites for Pilot Program to Improve Quality as Patients Move Across Care Settings

### 14 Communities Funded to Reduce Rates of Hospital Re-admissions and "Fragmentation of Care"

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the 14 communities around the nation that have been chosen for the Agency's Care Transitions Project, seeking to eliminate unnecessary hospital readmissions.



"Our data show that nearly one in five patients who leave the hospital today will be re-admitted within the next month, and that more than three-quarters of these re-admissions are potentially preventable," said CMS Acting Administrator Charlene Frizzera. "This situation can be changed by approaching health care quality from a community-wide perspective, and focusing on how all of the members of an area's health care team can better work together in the best interests of their shared patient population."

The goal of the Care Transitions Project is to improve health care processes so that patients, their caregivers, and their entire team of providers have what they need to keep patients from returning to the hospital for ongoing care needs. By promoting seamless transitions from the hospital to home, skilled nursing care, or home health care, this community-wide approach seeks, not only to reduce hospital readmissions but to yield sustainable and replicable strategies that achieve high-value health care for Medicare beneficiaries

To view a complete list of the 14 sites selected, please view the entire [press release](#) on the CMS website.

### Upcoming Technical Assistance Online Training!

questions about  
accessing the SART.

**Thank you for taking  
the time and effort to  
report your data, it is  
greatly appreciated.**

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:: [www.adrc-tae.org](http://www.adrc-tae.org) ::

Technical Assistance Exchange training sessions are live webcasts or self-paced courses. Each one requires registration and includes a session evaluation component. The number of participants is limited in some of the training sessions where interaction is a core component of the curriculum.

As indicated in their brief descriptions on the website, these training courses have been approved by the [National Association of Social Workers \(NASW\)](#) for Continuing Education Unit credits (CEU). At the end of the course, attendees will be required to complete a short exam to assess their understanding of the presented materials and complete an evaluation form, in order to receive CEU's. Please check the National Association of Social Workers website to find your individual licensing board to verify that they accept NASW approval as well as distance learning experience.

### **The Art of Options Counseling**

- **Date:** Today, Wednesday, April 29th
- **Time:** 2:30 - 4:00pm, Eastern time
- **Call-in Information:** Will be emailed to you after you register for the webinar.
- **Webinar Information:** [Register in advance](#) (Required)
- **Continuing Education Credits:** This course has been approved by the [National Association of Social Workers \(NASW\)](#) for 1.5 Continuing Education Unit credits (CEU).

*For a more detailed description of the trainings, including instructor biographies and presentation materials, please visit [the Training Page](#) on the TAE website.*

## **Upcoming Technical Assistance Events**

### **May Monthly Call for ADRC Grantees**

This call will offer ADRC program staff at the state and local levels the opportunity to learn about and discuss different strategies for sustaining and/or expanding ADRC programs. Participants will be invited to share their current challenges with regard to sustaining ADRC services beyond the grant funding period and get feedback and advice from other participants and TA providers. States that are actively expanding their ADRC programs will be invited to talk about how they are supporting these efforts, how things are going, and lessons learned. Participants from states at all stages of program design, implementation, and expansion are encouraged to attend.



- **Topic:** ADRC Sustainability and Expansion
- **Date:** Thursday, May 7, 2009
- **Time:** 2:30 - 4:00pm, Eastern
- **Toll-Free number:** 1-888-844-7278, Passcode 2695542
- **Webinar ID:** 734-084-905
  - [Register in advance](#) (Recommended)

Please visit [the Monthly Call page](#) on the TAE website for more information.

### ***The May Monthly Call for NHD Grantees has been postponed.***

There will be no call in May for NHD Grantees. **Please hold the date for the June NHD Grantee Monthly call!**

- **Topic:** Risk Management
- **Date:** June 17, 2009
- **Time:** 2:00 - 3:30pm
- **Toll-Free number:** TBA
- **Webinar ID:** TBA

Please visit [the Monthly Call page](#) on the TAE website for more information.

## **Is Your ADRC Involved in Transportation Coordination?**

### ***The TAE needs your input!***

The Technical Assistance Exchange is collaborating with partners at AoA, n4a, The National Center on Senior Transportation, and Easter Seals Project ACTION to bring you a new TAE Issue Brief on the network of transportation services and the role ADRCs and single entry point systems can play in transportation coordination.

We want this document to meet your needs for information, so we are looking for your direct input. What topics related to transportation would your organization find most useful? We are also seeking promising practices from ADRCs or SEPs that are involved in transportation networks to feature as Case Studies in the brief. Please contact Kip Brown at The Lewin Group ([kip.brown@lewin.com](mailto:kip.brown@lewin.com)) if you would like the opportunity to provide examples and input for this document. A small working

group may be convened to review an early draft.

Thanks for your help!

## Website Additions

[Connecticut NHD Cash & Counseling Training:](#) "Information For Caregivers" is an online educational tool that provides information about resources and services available for

caregivers. It was developed by the Connecticut NHD program.



[Connecticut Advertisements for ADRC & Cash and Counseling Programs:](#) These are two commercials Connecticut developed to advertise their ADRC and Cash & Counseling programs. They will be airing on various cable channels in CT (e.g. Food Network, Fox News, Discovery, etc).

[Indiana's Strategies for Making Tough Choices:](#) This document was developed by Indiana and will be used as a resource on today's "Art of Options Counseling" Training Call. It samples research on the processes involved with making a decision. It has a health care focus.

For a complete list of new resources, please visit [the TAE website](#).

## Methods, Models & Tools Summer Institute

Methods, Models & Tools is an intensive five-day summer institute, presented by the UNH Institute on Disability and the Browne Center, designed to help develop the competencies needed to facilitate consumer and family-directed life planning. The summer institute incorporates lecture, role-playing, action learning, and peer support to provide an interactive forum for participants to develop and practice effective group facilitation skills. Models of situational leadership, team performance, conflict management and principled negotiation are translated to the context of person-centered futures planning.

- **What:** Methods, Models & Tools Summer Institute
- **Registration Fee:** \$700
- **When:** July 15, 16, 17, 20, & 21, 2009

- **Time:** 9:00am - 4:00pm
- **Where:** Durham, New Hampshire
- **Who Should Attend:** The summer institute is specifically geared toward case managers, social workers, nurses, long term care specialists, clinicians, family members, and others involved in planning with persons with long term support needs.

Please visit [the conference home page](#) for more information.